

documented in the System Commissioning and Support Function Demonstration Plans; and

(3) The operational and administrative infrastructures and technical development needed to support the modernized field offices be maintained as required by the modernization plan." It is expected that these qualifications can be met for the above proposed certifications. If these qualifications can not be met prior to the September MTC meeting, these proposed certifications may or may not be presented to the Committee. If a decision to certify is made, the Secretary of Commerce must publish the final certification in the FR and transmit the certification to the appropriate Congressional committees prior to automating and closing these offices.

Dated: July 8, 1997.

Robert S. Winokur,

Acting Assistant Administrator for Weather Services.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 063097D]

Endangered Species; Permits

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Issuance of modification 6 to permit 848 (P507D) and modification 1 to permit 1011 (P211J).

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that NMFS has issued modifications to permits to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife at Olympia, WA (WDFW) and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife at La Grande, OR (ODFW) that authorize takes of Endangered Species Act-listed species for the purpose of scientific research/enhancement, subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

ADDRESSES: The application and related documents are available for review in the following offices, by appointment:

Office of Protected Resources, F/PR3, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3226 (301-713-1401); and

Protected Resources Division, F/NWO3, 525 NE Oregon Street, Suite 500, Portland, OR 97232-4169 (503-230-5400).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The modifications to permits were issued

under the authority of section 10 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543) and the NMFS regulations governing ESA-listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 217-222).

Notice was published on April 16, 1997 (62 FR 18587) that an application had been filed by WDFW (P507D) for modification 6 to scientific research/enhancement permit 848. Modification 6 to permit 848 was issued to WDFW on May 23, 1997. Permit 848 authorizes WDFW takes of adult and juvenile, threatened, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) associated with a supplementation hatchery program and scientific research/monitoring. For modification 6 to permit 848, WDFW is authorized takes of juvenile, threatened, Snake River fall chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) associated with scientific research designed to answer questions on fall chinook salmon production in the lower Tucannon River. Also for modification 6, WDFW is authorized to return adult, ESA-listed, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon carcasses from the supplementation program back to the Tucannon River for nutrient enrichment. Modification 6 is valid for the duration of the permit. Permit 848 expires on March 31, 1998.

Notice was published on April 16, 1997 (62 FR 18587) that an application had been filed by ODFW (P211J) for modification 1 to scientific research/enhancement permit 1011. Modification 1 to permit 1011 was issued to ODFW on June 20, 1997. Permit 1011 authorizes ODFW takes of juvenile, threatened, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) associated with a captive broodstock program for Catherine Creek, upper Grande Ronde River, and Lostine River populations. For modification 1, ODFW is authorized to collect returning adult, ESA-listed, naturally-produced fish from the three watersheds in 1997 to begin a supplementation program. ODFW anticipates sufficient adult returns to these watersheds in 1997 to allow the collection of ESA-listed adults for hatchery broodstock. ODFW believes that the collection of ESA-listed adults for hatchery supplementation will increase the probability of the persistence of the populations because of the survival advantage provided by the hatchery. The collection of ESA-listed adults for broodstock is authorized in 1997 only. The incubation of eggs and the rearing of ESA-listed juveniles is authorized for the duration of the permit. Permit 1011 expires on December 31, 2000.

Issuance of the permit modifications, as required by the ESA, was based on a finding that the modifications: (1) Were requested/proposed in good faith, (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of the ESA-listed species that are the subject of the permits, and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA and the NMFS regulations governing ESA-listed species permits.

Dated: July 7, 1997.

Nancy Chu,

Chief, Endangered Species Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 061097B]

Endangered and Threatened Species; Revision of Candidate Species List Under the Endangered Species Act

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of modification of list of candidate species.

SUMMARY: NMFS identifies marine and anadromous species as candidates for possible addition to the List of Endangered and Threatened Species. NMFS is soliciting information concerning the status of these species and nominations of additional species that appear to warrant listing consideration. This notice is not a proposal for listing, and the involved species do not receive substantive or procedural protection under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA). The candidate species list serves to notify the public that NMFS has concerns regarding these species/vertebrate populations that may warrant listing in the future, and it facilitates voluntary conservation efforts. NMFS encourages Federal agencies and other appropriate parties to take these species into account in project planning.

DATES: Comments will be accepted until further notice (see **ADDRESSES**).

ADDRESSES: Comments and reliable documentation for these and any recommended additions or deletions to the candidate species list should be sent to the Chief, Endangered Species Division, NMFS, Office of Protected